



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
1102 Q Street • Suite 3050 • Sacramento, CA 95811

March 29, 2024

Christian Shaughnessy for Board of Trustees Area 4 2022

Azley Tellez Rivera, Treasurer

Christian Shaughnessy for San Bernardino City Council Ward 3 2024

Maya Rodriguez, Treasurer



Warning Letter re: FPPC No. 2024-00412; Christian Shaughnessy for Board of Trustees Area 4 2022, Shaughnessy, Rivera, Christian Shaughnessy for San Bernardino City Council Ward 3 2024, Rodriguez

Dear Committees, Christian Shaughnessy, Azley Tellez Rivera, and Maya Rodriguez,

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ This letter is in response to a “self-reported” violation of the Act’s surplus funds provisions. The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the matter and found that you improperly used surplus funds to make a transfer from your 2022 committee, *Christian Shaughnessy for Board of Trustees Area 4 2022*, to your 2024 committee, *Christian Shaughnessy for San Bernardino City Council Ward 3 2024*.

Under the Act, leftover campaign funds become “surplus” upon the 90th day after leaving an elective office, or the 90th day following the end of the postelection reporting period following the defeat of a candidate for elective office, whichever occurs last.² Surplus funds may only be used for specific purposes as outlined in Section 89519: the payment of outstanding campaign debts or elected officer’s expenses, the repayment of contributions, donations to a bona fide charitable, educational, civic, religious, or similar tax-exempt, nonprofit organization.³ Surplus funds may not be used for a future election.

Your actions violated the Act because the 2022 committee transferred surplus funds in the amount of \$36.91 to the 2024 committee. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with a warning letter rather than a fine for the following reasons: you self-reported the violation, there was a low amount of surplus funds, you timely filed both pre-election

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code Sections 81000 through 91014.

² Section 89519(a).

³ Section 89519(b).

statements in connection with the March 5, 2024, primary election, and you have no history of violating this section of the Act.

This letter serves as a written warning. The information in this matter will be retained and may be considered should an enforcement action become necessary based on newly discovered information or future conduct. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act in the future will result in monetary penalties of up to \$5,000 for each violation.

A warning letter is an Enforcement Division case resolution without administrative prosecution or fine. However, the warning letter resolution does not provide you with the opportunity for a probable cause hearing or hearing before an Administrative Law Judge or the Commission. If you wish to avail yourself of these proceedings by requesting that your case proceed with prosecution rather than a warning, please notify us within ten (10) days from the date of this letter. Upon this notification, the Enforcement Division will rescind this warning letter and proceed with administrative prosecution of this case. If we do not receive such notification, this warning letter will be posted on the Commission's website ten (10) days from the date of this letter.

Please feel free to contact Tara Stock at tstock@fppc.ca.gov or 279-237-5958 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Burton

Christopher B. Burton, Assistant Chief
Enforcement Division

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